

Who Are We Trying to Please?  
By Dan Jenkins

There were several times in Paul's letters that he had to defend his apostleship and authenticity. On one such occasion he wrote, "For am I now seeking the favor of men, or of God? Or am I striving to please men? If I were still trying to please men, I would not be a bondservant of Christ" (Gal. 1:10). This raises a good question for us. Who are we trying to please? It is easy to see how this motivation could change the perspective we have on so many things.

If we are living to please God, then our lives and thought processes would be oriented in that direction. There would be several things that I would be putting first, no matter the circumstances. I would be seeking what was best for the advancement and promotion of the kingdom (Matt. 6:33). I would be seeking to establish God's righteousness and not my own (Matt. 6:33; Rom. 10:1-3). I would "keep seeking the things above" and "set [my] mind" on those things (Col. 3:1-2). I would be thinking and pondering on those things that have the highest moral value (Phil. 4:8). I would make every effort to be pleasing to God. "Therefore we also have as our ambition, whether at home or absent, to be pleasing to Him" (2 Cor. 5:9).

By orienting my life in this way, God has made assurances to us. He has assured us that He has our best interest at heart, not wanting any to perish (2 Pet. 3:9). He has proven Himself over and over again to be faithful in His promises, even when mankind hasn't been (Heb. 10:23). He has shown us loving kindness that we do not deserve (Eph. 2:7). He has forgiven us when we didn't deserve it (1 John 1:9). He has given us grace through His Son (2 Tim. 1:9). He even has promised us a reward after already doing so much for us. "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time" (1 Pet. 1:3-5).

If we are trying to please man, we would be given none of those assurances. By pleasing man, I am not serving God. I am a slave to the whim and will of mankind. They can promise me nothing that would be eternal. The ramifications are staggering. I am still in my sin. I have no eternal hope. My life is patterned after a shifting, fleeting form of morality. It leaves my life in a lurch. My family life is like some reality TV show. I would be powerless to do anything about it. Living to please others puts them in the driver's seat of our lives. Who do you want in control of your life? God is the only one who has proven Himself to be capable of guiding us.

**Things you should know about!**

We would like to send donations to the Disaster Relief Fund quarterly. If you want to contribute, mark it as "DRF" or give the money to Jason.

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**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

Michelle Gasper 8/30  
Tom Muter 9/29

Laura McGiffin 9/29

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*Calling all ladies... if you are interested in doing a Bible study together, please get with Stephanie today. We will be doing a study written by Cindy Colley beginning in September, called the "God of all Comfort." This is a year long study and we will meet once a month for a podcast with Cindy and her team and to encourage each other along the way.*

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Tipp City's Gospel meeting is September 11-14 with Phil Greer speaking.

Our Gospel Meeting will be October 2-5 with Bob Vincent speaking.

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September's potluck will be on September 11th.

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**Serving today and next Sunday:**

Sunday AM Rotation	August 28, 2022	September 4, 2022
Announcements	Tom Muter	Duane Kemp
Song Leading	Jason Bang	Owen Whittington
Opening Prayer/Greeter/Usher	Duane Kemp (L)	Jerry Thompson (L)
Lord's Supper Comments	Tim Bang	Jason Bang
Scripture Reading	Jerry Thompson	Tom Muter
Sermon	John McGiffin	John McGiffin
Closing Prayer/Usher	Owen Whittington (R)	Tim Bang (R)

**Bible Verse of the Week**

“I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.” Galatians 2:20

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**Lord's Supper Reflection**

*Soon to have Victory over Death*

“And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, “Father, ‘into Your hands I commit My spirit.’ “ Having said this, He breathed His last.” Luke 23:46

**Offering Meditation**

*We are commanded to worship God with our contributions*

“And you shall answer... I have brought the first fruits of the land which you, O LORD, have given me.” “Then you shall set it before the LORD your God, and worship before the LORD your God. So you shall rejoice in every good *thing* which the LORD your God has given to you and your house, ...” Deuteronomy 26:5,10

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**Remember in Prayer:**

- \*Our Country & leaders
- \*Phyllis Caldwell - encouragement
- \*Rena Morgan - Shut in, health
- \*Ernst & Helen Sherrill (Bro/Sis in Christ from TN) - shut ins with ongoing health issues
- \*Larry Bey - asked for prayers for his Parkinson's
- \*Bob Peters (friend of Tim Bang) recovering from a heart attack and surgery to put in a pace maker
- \*Linda Blackford (friend of the Kemp's) - is recovering from a stroke
- \*Evelyn Lam - healing from having skin tissue removed on her face
- \*Tom Cruze (Phyllis Caldwell's nephew) - dealing with health issues
- \*Tyler Rush (Marjorie Seiber's grandson) - having surgery to have a mass on his thyroid removed

- \*Debbie Brayfield (Alena Brown's aunt) - is in a Rehab facility recovering from surgery from kidney stones and being in the hospital
- \*Judy Haguewood (Steven Haguewood's mom) - was taken to the hospital earlier this week and is now waiting to have a biopsy on spots they've found on her lungs and liver
- \*Orville Thompson (Jerry Thompson's dad) - is having hip surgery
- \*Sharon Thomson (Jerry Thompson's mom) - has an upcoming knee surgery

**How can we be praying for YOU?**

Please call John or email him at [jmcgiffin.yayo@gmail.com](mailto:jmcgiffin.yayo@gmail.com) with any prayer requests or announcements you may have for the congregation.

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**Attendance and Contribution Record**

**Sunday, August 21**

Bible Classes	32
AM Attendance	41
PM Attendance	25

**Wednesday, August 22**

Bible Classes	26
Contribution	\$1,350.00

# Welcome to the Greenville Church of Christ



## August 28, 2022

**Worship Times:**

- Sunday Morning Bible class: 9:30am
- Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30am
- Sunday Evening Worship: 6:00pm
- Wednesday Evening Bible Study: 7:00pm

**Minister, John McGiffin**

4599 Children's Home Bradford Rd  
Greenville, OH 45331

[www.greenvillecoc.org](http://www.greenvillecoc.org)

We are blessed that you have chosen to worship with us today!  
If you are visiting, we would love to have you back with us again. Please take a moment to fill out a visitor's card and let us get to know you.